

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 MCE-00 ACDA-12
OMB-01 /079 W
-----042709 260734Z /17

R 260645Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 575
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA
SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI
CINCPACREPPHIL SUBIC BAY RP
13AF CLARK AF RP

S E C R E T SINGAPORE 2828

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, RP, US, SN
SUBJECT: A-4 TRAINING IN THE PHILIPPINES

REF: (A) STATE 157212, (B) SINGAPORE 257 (NOTAL)

1. WE WELCOME THE NEWS THAT DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED TO
APPROVE SINGAPORE USE OF CLARK FOR A-4 TRAINING AND KNOW
THAT GOS WILL BE MOST APPRECIATIVE.

2. RE PARA 4 REFTL A, WE FEEL THAT BILATERAL TALKS
BETWEEN U.S. AND PHILIPPINES THROUGH MUTUAL DEFENSE BOARD
WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST FORUM FOR DISCUSSIONS ON IMPLEMENT-
ING ARRANGEMENTS. WE DO NOT THINK THAT EXCLUSION OF
SINGAPORE FROM THESE TALKS WOULD NECESSARILY LEAD TO
PROBLEMS BECAUSE (AS NOTED IN REFTL B) GOS HAS FOR QUITE
SOME TIME APPARENTLY BEEN PREPARED TO ACCEPT ALL OF
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PHILIPPINE CONDITIONS AND STIPULATIONS. BASED ON GOS
AIDE-MEMOIRE OF JANUARY 1978 (REFTL B), GOS AWAITS
ONLY U.S. APPROVAL IN ORDER TO CONCLUDE AGREEMENT
WITH PHILIPPINES.

3. WE ARE NOT SURE OF PRECISE DEFINITION OF TERM
"MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE UNDERSTANDING" AS USED IN PARA

4 REFTEL A BUT ASSUME IT WOULD INVOLVE TRIPARTITE U.S.-PHILIPPINE-SINGAPORE TALKS TO WORK OUT IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS. OUR FEELING HERE IS THAT GOS WILL NOT BE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT MODALITIES BUT WILL BE CONTENT WITH ANY ARRANGEMENTS THAT APPEAR REASONABLE TO U.S. AND PHILIPPINES AND THAT PERMIT EFFECTIVE TRAINING. GOS ACCEPTANCE OF PHILIPPINE TERMS AS SPECIFIED IN JANUARY 1978 AIDE-MEMOIRE SEEMS TO US TO REINFORCE THIS VIEW. GOS IS, OF COURSE, QUITE ACCUSTOMED TO DESPATCHING MILITARY UNITS ABROAD FOR TRAINING--TO AUSTRALIA, TAIWAN, BRUNEI, ETC.--UNDER WHAT MUST BE VARIETY OF TERMS, AND WE DOUBT THAT THEY WILL BE AT ALL DEMANDING. SINGAPOREANS ARE ALSO VERY MUCH AWARE OF SPECIAL DELICACY OF THIS PROGRAM IN LIGHT OF U.S.-PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS, AND WILL BE ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS NOT TO ROCK THE BOAT.

4. PERHAPS BEST ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE TO WORK OUT MODALITIES BILATERALLY THROUGH MDB BUT AT SAME TIME TO INSURE THAT GOS, THROUGH PRIOR EXPLANATION OF PROCEDURES AND DETAILED BRIEFINGS, IS KEPT CLOSELY INFORMED OF OUR TALKS WITH PHILIPPINES. IF ANY QUESTIONS AROSE IN COURSE OF MDB DISCUSSIONS AS TO WHETHER A PARTICULAR DETAIL WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO SINGAPORE, WE COULD ARRANGE TO QUERY GOS IN SINGA-
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PORE AND HAVE ANSWER BACK IN FEW HOURS.

5. SHOULD CONSENSUS BE THAT DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEST BE WORKED OUT TRILATERALLY TO AVOID ANY POSSIBILITY OF MISUNDERSTANDING, ON THE OTHER HAND, WE ARE SURE GOS WOULD BE HAPPY TO ACCOMMODATE THIS PROCEDURE AS WELL.
INGRAHAM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 jun 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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